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**MULIT-DIVISIONAL BRIEFING  
FLORIDA PHOSPHATE PROJECT  
WEST-CENTRAL FLORIDA  
January 21, 2010**

**PROJECT GOALS**

- Characterization of nature and extent of potential radiological impacts from phosphate mining in West-Central, Florida
- Assessment of potential risks and evaluation of options for risk mitigation.

**BACKGROUND**

- 2150 square-mile phosphate deposit located in West-Central Florida.
- Primary source of phosphate ore for U.S. and exported to other countries (e.g., China).
- Mining extent: 630 square-mile area of active mines; 226 square-mile area of formerly mined land.
- Phosphate ore contains naturally occurring levels of uranium and radium, which is distributed at the surface during the mining and processing of the ore.
- EPA uses a “non-threshold dose” approach to the evaluation of potential risks to radiation exposure.
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**SCOPE OF STUDY**

- 28 Phosphate Mining related sites in CERCLIS.
- Most sites discovered in 1980 with no significant activity since mid-1990’s.
- Response to GAO audit of projects in CERCLIS with “Unaddressed Risks” hi-lighted issue.
- Efforts underway to develop a strategy to assess extent of potential impacts, potential risks, and response alternatives.
- In addition to technical considerations, many “socio-economic” and “political” considerations.

**CURRENT STATUS**

- Preparing for Senior Management Briefings with State of Florida and EPA HQ.

